Andrew Johnson

Wrt 105

James Charlton’s “The Dimensions of Disability Oppression” fully expands towards into the problems of disabled societies and the negativity that affects the social, cultural and beliefs of modern day society.

Quotes

“Put differently, people with disabilities, like many others, are preponderantly part of a worldwide phenomenon that James O’Connor called ‘surplus population’ and Istvan Meszaros called ‘superfluous people” (Charlton 149). Unfortunately, society ostracizes disabled people into “not normal” labels like surplus population.

“Oppression is a phenomenon of power in which relations between people and between groups are experienced in terms of domination and subordination, superiority and inferiority” (Charlton 153). People with power are going to use and abuse their power to set a line between superiority and inferiority.

“The first is the capacity of ruling regimes to instill its values in the mass people through double-speak, misdirection (blame the victim), naturalized inferiority, and legitimated authority” (Charlton 157). By using their power, they can use oppression to make others feel inferior and misunderstand their sense of self-worth.

“In political-economic terms, everyday life is informed by where and how individuals, families, and communities are incorporated into a world system dominated by the few who control the means of production and force.” (Charlton 148) Society’s function and production is limited towards the normal society.

“Attitudes hold that people with disabilities are pitiful and that disability itself is abnormal. This is one of the social norms used to separate people with disabilities through classification systems that encompass education, housing, transportation, health care, and family life.” (Charlton 150) Society tends to judge the disabled to be abnormal and that creates a thick line between how they share their lives with normal and disabled society.

“Disabled people cannot recognize that their self-perceived pitiful lives are simply a perverse mirroring of a pitiful world order.”(Charlton 151) There is a misstatement that reveals that disabled people are fooled into thinking their lives is pitiful when instead society itself makes it seem so.

“Special Education,…,has been transformed from a way to increase the probability that students with disabilities will get some kind of an education into a badge of inferiority and a rule-bound, bureaucratic process of separating and then warehousing millions of young people that the dominant culture has no need for.” (Charlton 155) The act of separation from a regular class indicates abnormality which labels young disabled individuals as inferior and not normal.

“Historically, most people with disabilities live apart from the rest of society” (Charlton 156).

People with disabilities tend to live separately from normal society.

“Evolution of consciousness depends on how one perceives and what questions one asks” (Charlton 152).

Knowledge and knowing can change how one perceives or views disabled individuals.

“Students with disabilities, as soon as their disability is recognized by school officials, are placed on a separate track” (Charlton 154)

When acknowledged as a disabled individual, they are separated from the normal classrooms, so kids will never encounter a disabled kid and will not know how to react when introduced to a disabled individual.